

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

UNCLAS STATE 156597

FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 4553 ACTION SECSTATE INFO
BUDAPEST WARSAW BELGRADE NEW DELHI CANBERRA 17 JULY.

QUOTE

UNCLAS GENEVA 4553

FROM QUENTIN JONES

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, UN

SUBJ: MEETING OF UN CONSULTANT GROUP ON RESEARCH
TO INCREASE CODEINE PRODUCTION

1. CONSULTANT GROUP ON UN POPPY RESEARCH PROJECT--MADE
UP OF QUENTIN JONES (US), ARNOLD NORDHAL (NORWAY, V.S
RAMANATHAN (INDIA), AND P. TETENYI (HUNGARY)-- MET JULY
10 THROUGH 12. MORICE (FRANCE) WAS INVITED BUT UNABLE TO
ATTEND. O. BRAENDEN AND E. LUMSDEN REPRESENTED UN
NARCOTICS LABORATORY. GROUP WAS WELL BALANCED IN TERMS
OF BACKGROUND EXPERIENCE, SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINES, AND
GEOGRAPHIC/NATIONAL REPRESENTATION.

2. GROUP INTERPRETED ITS ASSIGNMENT AS BEING THAT OF
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ADVISING UN LABORATORY ON RESEARCH PROGRAM FOR ALLEVIATING

PROJECTED SHORTFALLS IN CODEINE SUPPLY WITHOUT
JEOPARDIZING EFFECTIVE NARCOTICS CONTROLS.

3. IN PRIORITY ORDER, GROUP RECOMMENDED FOLLOWING
ACTIONS:

A. UTILIZATION OF EXISTING STOCKS OF POPPY STRAW, INCISED
AND UNINCISED. IMPLEMENTATION WILL BE BY ON-SITE VISITS
BY BRAENDEN TO HUNGARY, POLAND, YUGOSLAVIA, INDIA, AND
AUSTRALIA. PROCESSORS WILL BE QUERIED AS TO LOWER LIMIT
OF FRAGMENTATION OF STRAW FOR HANDLING AND PROCESSING
AND LOWEST ACCEPTABLE MORPHINE CONTENT TO BE ECONOMIC.
RESEARCHABLE PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED ARE: HARVESTING
METHODS, REDUCTION OF BULK AND LOWERING OF TRANSPORTATION
COSTS, AND PRESERVATION OF MORPHINE CONTENT.

B. IMPROVING YIELDS OF DESIRED ALKALOIDS FROM OPIUM POPPY.
IMPLEMENTATION WILL BE THROUGH SPECIFIC RESEARCH PROJECTS
AND ACTIVITIES, STARTING WITH AN IMMEDIATE EFFORT TO BRING
TOGETHER WORLD COLLECTION OF POPPY STRAINS AND VARIETIES
(GERM PLASM). SEED, PROJECTS, AND TECHNICAL GUIDANCE
SHOULD ALL BE ON LINE FOR INITIATION OF FIELD RESEARCH WORK
STARTING FIRST AVAILABLE PLANTING PERIOD, FALL, 1974.
LABORATORY AND GREENHOUSE STUDIES CAN BEGIN SOONER.

C. CROP DEVELOPMENT OF PAPAVER BRACTEATUM AS A RAW
MATERIAL SOURCE OF CODEINE. THIS RESEARCH IS UNDERWAY AND
GOOD PROGRESS IS BEING MADE. FOR THIS REASON GROUP
ASSIGNED LOWEST PRIORITY TO BRACTEATUM, WHILE
RECOGNIZING THAT IT IS PROBABLY THE LONGER-TERM
SOLUTION TO ASSURING ADEQUATE, SAFE SUPPLIES OF CODEINE.

4. FULL REPORT OF GROUP WILL BE FORWARDED WITHIN SEVERAL DAYS.
MEANWHILE JONES IS WORKING WITH BRAENDEN AND LUMSDEN ON
BREAKING OUT BY SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES AND BACKUP SUPPORT HOW
FUNDS WILL BE USED WITHIN A TIME FRAME.

5. QUENTIN JONES IS SATISFIED THAT POPPY RESEARCH PROJECT
IS OFF AND RUNNING. ON TIMING, JONES AND BRAENDEN/LUMSDEN
AGREE THAT PROJECT IS TO BE COMPLETED WITHIN SHORTEST POSSIBLE
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TIME AND MAXIMUM 3 YEARS. DALE UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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